

Message Text

SECRET

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WHITE HOUSE: B. MC FARLANE
S - MR. ADAMS

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R 210247Z MAY 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
CIN CPAC
AMEMBASSY SUVA BY POUCH

S E C R E T STATE 118344

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, PARM, PFOR, NZ

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER ROWLING
CINCPAC FOR POLAD

1. PRESIDENT MET WITH NEW ZEALAND PRIME MINISTER ROWLING
ON MAY 7 FOR ABOUT ONE HOUR. ALSO PRESENT WERE NZ
AMBASSADOR WHITE, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
FRANCIS, SECRETARY KISSINGER, GEN. SCOWCROFT, ASSISTANT
SECRETARY HABIB, AND AMBASSADOR SELDEN.

2. PRESIDENT NOTED THAT US HAS RECENTLY GONE THROUGH
TRAUMATIC EXPERIENCE IN INDOCHINA, BUT THAT US WILL CONTIN-
UE TO PLAY MAJOR ROLE IN PACIFIC AND ASIA AND WILL NOT
RETREAT TO ISOLATION. IN SPITE OF A TENDENCY BY SOME TO
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BE SHORT-SIGHTED, PRESIDENT THOUGHT CONGRESS WILL ULTI-

MATELY TAKE THE LONG VIEW AND SUPPORT HIM IN A POLICY OF KEEPING UP US STRENGTH. HE SAID THAT WE WANT TO CONTINUE GOOD RELATIONS WITH NEW ZEALAND, AND WILL STAND BY COMMITMENTS. ROWLING WELCOMED THIS MESSAGE, TERMING IT "ENCOURAGING," AND NOTING THAT LEE AND RAZAK, AMONG OTHERS AT THE COMMONWEALTH MEETING, WERE CONCERNED WITH POSSIBILITY THAT US WOULD TURN INWARD.

3. PRESIDENT GAVE ANALYSIS OF US ECONOMY, NOTING THAT NUMBER OF INDICATORS SHOW WE ARE AT BOTTOM AND POISED

FOR REVIVAL. ROWLING REFERRED TO HEAVY NZ DEPENDENCE ON US ECONOMIC CONDITIONS AND ON US MARKET, SUCH AS FOR BEEF. PRESIDENT EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR NZ COOPERATION ON BEEF EXPORTS. ROWLING DESCRIBED "BEATING" NZ HAS TAKEN IN TRADE AND CAUSES: HIGHER IMPORTS COSTS (INCLUDING OIL) AND FLUCTUATING COMMODITY PRICES. HE PUT IN PLUG FOR US SUPPORT FOR ADDITIONAL DRAWINGS ALLOCATIONS IN IMF.

4. PRESIDENT RAISED MATTER OF NAVAL FACILITIES IN SINGAPORE. ROWLING SAID THAT US SHOULD DEAL DIRECTLY WITH LEE, SINCE LEE REGARDS FACILITIES AS NO LONGER PART OF FPDA, AND ANY ARRANGEMENT SHOULD BE BETWEEN GOS AND USG. HE SAID NEW ZEALAND "NOT ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT TAKING ON THE FACILITIES," BUT AGREED TO CONSIDER FURTHER IF LEE CHANGES HIS POSITION.

5. ROWLING SAID THAT THAILAND IN NEED OF MORALE BOOST. PRESIDENT AGREED THAT THAILAND IN JEOPARDY, BUT THAT US WILL WITHDRAW FORCES IF THEY DESIRE, PREFERABLY ON PHASED BASIS.

6. ROWLING ASKED ABOUT ENERGY SITUATION, AND SECRETARY DISCUSSED REASONS FOR BREAKDOWN OF PARIS MEETING, NOTING THAT BIG PROBLEM NOW IS TO AVOID CONFRONTATION. ROWLING THOUGHT THAT THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES WOULD "BE WILLING TO CALM DOWN," BASED ON HIS RECENT OBSERVATIONS AT JAMAICA CONFERENCE. PRESIDENT NOTED THAT ATTITUDE OF RECIPROCITY REQUIRED ON THEIR PART.

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7. ROWLING ASKED ABOUT MIDDLE EAST. PRESIDENT STATED THAT JUNE MEETINGS WITH SADAT AND RABIN WILL BE IMPORTANT IN DECIDING HOW TO PROCEED; STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH, COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH, OR A COMBINATION. HE SAID US FEELS STRONGLY THAT MOMENTUM MUST BE MAINTAINED. IN RESPONSE TO ROWLING QUESTION, PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY SAID THAT PREEMPTIVE ACTION BY ISRAEL WOULD GET ISRAEL

INTO GREAT DIFFICULTIES WITH US.

8. SECRETARY NOTED NZ INTEREST IN SOUTH PACIFIC NUCLEAR FREE ZONE, REFERRED TO POSSIBLE PROBLEMS IT COULD RAISE, AND ASKED IF WE MIGHT HAVE CONSULTATIONS BEFORE ANY RESOLUTION INTRODUCED. ROWLING GAVE ASSURANCE THAT AS AN ALLY, "WE WOULD PLAN TO TALK IT THROUGH WITH YOU." HE THOUGHT THAT IN ANY CASE, FIJI WILL PROMOTE SUBJECT. ROWLING SAID THAT NZ INTEREST IS IN NON-PROLIFERATION, AND THOUGHT WE WOULD BE ABLE TO REACH AGREEMENT AFTER CONSULTATIONS. INGERSOLL

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